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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAHLIAS

1923



All Hail!
Our Queen
The Dahlia.

GROWN AT

Doty Dahlia Gardens

A. C. Doty, Grower and Importer

Blasdell, N. Y.

P. O. LACKAWANNA, N. Y.

IMPORTANT

READ CAREFULLY

GIVE ADDRESS VERY PLAINLY

Prices are for divisions of field roots. Roots as priced will be prepaid, postage or express. Remittance desired before shipment, C. O. D., if preferred. Stamps acceptable for small orders which will always receive careful attention.

Shipment usually made between April 15th and June 1st, unless by request for an early section.

In case shortage occurs of any variety, by unusual demand, a refund will be made. Substitution only by permission or upon request. It is well to name a few varieties as a secondary choice. When selection is left to me, will deal liberally, striving to please, will give more than value. Great care is exercised to have varieties true to name. Should an error be found, please inform that replacement may be made.

Do not hold me responsible for all roots that fail to grow. There are often reasons I cannot control.

Will do more than could be expected by leaving this to your opinion, believing that you will be fair. My greatest aim is to please and retain my patrons, so please inform as soon as possible of any complaint. You will do me a favor by speaking to any that might wish for this list, or pass your own on if not required. My wish for your best success.

—A. C. D.

GREETING

Kind Friends and Patrons, (Old and New):

Many of you I will never meet, but will offer to all a spirit of true comradeship in our mutual interest toward the flowers we cherish. May those received bear that message to you. Flowers are our most beautiful gift from God. In caring for them we are closely associated with the Divine Creator, acting through the laws of nature. By getting nearer this Great Companionship and the heart of Nature, we become better, and attain far more joy in life. The benefit acquired is both spiritual and physical, by our pleasant activity in the great outdoors our cares grow light and our health and happiness will increase.

First of all I grow flowers for the pleasure derived, and have them in my heart. With just pride and deep personal interest, I care for my dahlias, which hold the first place.

You may think it a strong assertion, my saying that I believe there is not another flower, grown out doors, in our climate, to compare with the dahlia, especially the newer creations of such wondrous beauty, their gorgeous colors, often so beautifully blended as to defy description or power of artist to transcribe. Add to this their long period of bloom and greatly varied and artistic

formation, so effective for use in vase or basket. There may be someone to dissent, for tastes will differ, you may know the old Indian said he was glad it was so, for it left him in secure possession of his squaw. I differ in spirit and wish all who can, will obtain and grow at least a few well selected dahlias. I am sure you too will soon enthuse. The object of this modest catalog is to place before you not a great number of varieties, but such as have been a source of pleasure to me. I would not boastfully assert that I have the largest and finest collection. There are many new beauties that I am hopeful to obtain. Each year I try to possess the best and keep up with the rapid advance, almost startling. Watch for them. I grow many hundreds not upon the list, stock being insufficient or they may not yet have passed approval. It is a pleasure indeed to watch the new ones of merit unfold their beauty for the first time in the garden.

You may meet with failure and disappointments, I do, not always attributable to the root or variety, caused perhaps by climatic conditions, possibly lack of care or other causes. The true lover will not despair, but continue on and under right conditions will be richly rewarded. No flower is more responsive to kind treatment. I know of very rare exceptions where flowers are not obtained. In the list that follows I trust you will find something worthy of your attention, at a price to compare favorably with any. Go to the other fellow if you will, and there are ladies, too, successful and dependable. You will invariably get a square deal from those who have flowers, and the Golden Rule in their hearts, and are not commercialists only.

In conclusion would most cordially invite those who can to visit the garden in the blooming season. It is the best place to make a selection for orders. Many varieties can be shown and obtained, that have not been listed. Correspondence solicited from those interested in the Dahlia. Will cheerfully give as far as able any information that I may possess.

Faithfully yours,

A. C. Doty.

CULTURAL DIRECTIONS

If not ready to plant when roots are received, be careful they do not become dry and shrivel, causing loss of vitality. Would suggest they be placed in box of dirt, not wet, yet slightly moist, covering roots lightly. Watch them. Dahlias, with right treatment will do well upon varying soils, not wet, a fatal condition. Soil should be carefully prepared at good depth, and condition, such as would grow good vegetables. Fresh manure is better plowed under in the fall. The ground should not be excessively rich or more foliage than flowers might result. It is often beneficial to make light applications, scattered at intervals, and at planting time, of chemical fertilizer, ashes, poultry and other fine and well decayed manures from the barnyard, well worked in. At planting time cover the tuber lightly to

prevent contact with any material of great strength after which complete the covering. Plant if possible in full sunlight away from the roots of large trees. Where room, have rows about 4 feet apart, spaced in the row 3 or 3½ feet. Depth 4 to 6 inches. Lay tuber flat upon its side, with shoot upward, if it has appeared. Any weak growth made in the cellar should be cut well back, insuring a new and stronger growth. There is no set rule for the time to plant, this must vary according to section and climatic condition. Do not plant when cold and wet, decay might result. About the usual time in this section would be from May 15th until June. Have had lots of bloom and good results with roots planted July 1st, but would not advise this rule. Dahlias are at their best during the cooler days of autumn, so their requirements are not for extremely early planting. The hot days of summer are quite trying to some blooms. Watering is seldom required during the early period of their growth, unless it becomes very dry, then if done, it should be thorough, after which, before crusting, stir the ground. I would impress that careful cultivation and hoeing cannot be overdone. Even though weeds have been subdued. When rain occurs stir the ground as soon as stickiness is over, this helps to retain moisture, gives aeration, and prevents crusting. When buds appear cease working at a depth to injure roots, a mulch at this time is often beneficial. Manure or even coarse litter. By picking out the bud or shoot at the terminal of young plants after two or three sets of leaves have appeared will slightly retard growth but make a more bushy plant. Staking may be required to save strong growing plants from breaking where strong winds occur in exposed situations. If you wish flowers of exhibition size and good stems, disbudding is useful, remove all buds and shoots excepting the best or terminal one. Shoots may be reserved near the bottom to flower later. Remove flowers as soon as they are fading. The process of seed formation wastes strength that would be better given to fresh buds. Old flowers and stems are also unsightly. Dig the roots if possible upon a sunny drying day after foliage has been destroyed by frost. When cutting away the top leave a very short portion of the stem—with the tuber. It is near the junction that the shoots of another year will appear. Handle roots carefully for some have rather long and weak necks which should not be broken.

See that roots are dry when stored. Place upside down in boxes or containers so moisture in stems will not be retained, possibly causing stem decay. Store in a cool but frost proof cellar away from furnace heat. A covering over the boxes of some material as old sacks, I think better than sand or dirt in which should any dampness arise might start decay. **Watch roots**, if they shrivel, they are too dry, appearance of mold precursor of decay, signifies dampness, they require dry air for short time. Cut out decay, it might save balance of clump. Never plant the whole clump as dug, but separate with a strong sharp knife, with hammer also for large roots. Do this after the small eyes appear leaving one or

two upon each division. If roots are very dry with loss of vitality, before division bury in light soil, not wet, the eyes will appear if there is still inherent life in the root. The foregoing directions are not arbitrary, supplement with good judgment according to your conditions. Cherish the plants with whole heartedness, I am sure you will find no flower more dependable, and responsive for good treatment and the ensuing reward.

CLASSIFICATION

NOTE—It is difficult to separate all dahlias into a class division. Many new hybrids are produced from crosses and merge from one class to another.

After a long blooming period and in late season, many varieties at first double, will show open centers.

The colors at first are more intense, but gradually become lighter and vary with climatic changes. Some fancy varieties will at times sport to solid colors.

CACTUS CLASS—

A true cactus variety closely resembles a Chrysanthemum or cactus flower, hence the name. Under good conditions the blooms are double with varied petal formation, usually narrow, may be straight or whorled and twisted, giving rise to the frequent expression "Those shaggy ones," which are always greatly admired.

DECORATIVE CLASS—

These are easily recognized by the large flattened form of flower usually double. Many of the new hybrids are of immense size and wondrous beauty.

PEONY OR ART CLASS—

Are semi double, often with very small curly petals about the golden center, like a Japanese peony. Some of the largest are of this type.

SHOW CLASS—

Are an older form, perhaps the first you may have seen in grandmother's garden. Many of the new beauties are of immense size. Truly a great advance has been made. Petals are quilled and in close formation, producing globular flowers, often massive and imposing.

POMPON CLASS—

These are really miniature flowers of the show type. Are fast becoming justly popular for their garden effect and value as cut flowers. They possess the most lasting quality of any and produce bloom in great profusion. Are more dwarf in habit and may be planted a little closer.

SINGLE CLASS—

It is hardly necessary to define these with their single row of petals forming flowers of vary-

ing size, some quite large. They produce a very artistic effect in vases or baskets.

COLLARETTE CLASS—

A late class originating in France. Are single but very distinct and original with their added row of small curly petals, encircling the golden center, this being called the collarette.

NOTE—There is another very dwarf class little known and not often listed, called the Anemone flowered or pin cushion dahlia.

CACTUS CLASS

BALLANDE—French cactus, creamy yellow, suffused mauve rose, medium size with rather broad petals. .25

CANDEUR—Creamy white, changing to pure white very free bloomer, resembles Chrysanthemum, valuable cut flower .25

COCCINEA SUPERBA—Water Lily type, brilliant scarlet, early and extremely profuse, a mass of glowing color throughout the season. .25

COLORADO—A brilliant scarlet .25

COUNTESS OF LONSDALE—Color difficult to describe, might call it salmon pink, with a suspicion of apricot, overspread by delicate violet. Blooms under all conditions, the freeest cactus variety in the garden. A dahlia for all. .25

DECISION—A splendid flower, with long incurved petals shading from deep yellow center to a golden bronze edge. .50

DOROTHY HAWES—English variety, color rosy cerise of purplish shade, a large flower of good depth, petals interlace .30

EDITH CARTER—Color, yellow center, heavily suffused rosy carmine toward points, erect habit, graceful and refined .25

ETENDARD-DE-LYON—Of very distinct color, rich carmine rose approaching a light royal purple. All stop to admire this giant bloom .40

EXTASE—A beautiful flower of good size, delicately colored, white suffused and tipped mauve rose. .30

FLORADORA—A finely formed flower of wine crimson, profuse and early .25

GEN. PERSHING—A splendid white, with suffused creamy center, twisted and curled, profuse with good stems and a strong grower. Scarce. .40

- GEO. WALTERS (Hybrid Cactus)—One of California's best and very popular because of its impressive beauty given by its large size and color, a pinkish salmon shaded to a yellow base. .50
- JULES VACHEROT—French cactus variety, unique but variable, white and orange scarlet sometimes sporting solid cream white or scarlet. .25
- JEANNE HARDY—Dainty, almost globular flower, color French purple with vinous red suffusion, reverse showing rosy crimson, medium size .25
- KALIF—An extra large pure scarlet of German origin. Truly majestic often 8 inches or more in diameter. Strong grower, always effective. .50
- LA FAVORITA (Hybrid Cactus)—A fine new Californian of a brilliant salmon orange with large bloom full to the center, good stems, keeps well so a fine cut flower. 1.00
- LEIPZIG—Another extra fine German variety, not listed elsewhere in America. A new and brilliant color, deep rosy lavender, distinct formation strong and erect. .40
- MAD HENRI CAYEUX (French)—Rich pink, lightly tipped and suffused white. .25
- MARGUERITE BOUCHON—A noted French cactus dahlia, and one of the most admired in my gardens during the past season. A large artistic flower of a perfectly charming color, brilliant rose, with creamy white center. Strong grower and profuse bloomer .40
- MISS WILMOT—Medium size, deep rich yellow with rose tips. .25
- MRS. FERDINAND JEFFRIES—American dahlia of deep velvety crimson. I believe without a peer in its color. The irregular formation of the petals, curled and twisted, give it a very shaggy appearance. .25
- NIBELUNGENHORT—A truly magnificent flower of old rose with light suffusion of apricot, petals rather broad composing a flower often six inches or more in diameter. Greatly admired. .40
- PRIMA DONNA—Good sized flowers creamy white shading to mauve rose, rather broad petals .25
- REINE MARGUERITE (French.)—Original form. White tipped and suffused carmine. .25
- RENE CAYEUX—French. Of the best of its color, a brilliant geranium scarlet, starlike formation, early and abundant bloomer. .25

RELIANCE—English variety. Of brownish crimson, slightly incurved, very prolific therefore fine for the garden .25

SPRINGFIELD—Has all the superior qualities of Countess of Lonsdale, in fact is identical except in its beautiful color of rosy amaranth .25

SWEET BRIAR—One of the best, slightly incurved, exquisite, soft silvery pink of extreme beauty .35

SONNENGOLD—Water Lily type, luminous old gold .25

SHERLOCK—A very pleasing autumn tint of cinnamon orange, large and perfect, with rather narrow petals that incurve. .25

THE GRIZZLY—One of the best California novelties. An immense dark velvety scarlet maroon beauty, held above the foliage upon strong stems. 1.00

UNA—White shaded mauve rose, the color of our native thistle, serrated petals giving a feathery appearance. .25

V. HERMANOS—French. Color effective purplish garnet, broad petals, an early and continuous bloomer. .25

WACHT - AM - RHEIN—German. A delicate beautiful suffusion of rose and white, flowers of fine quality borne erect upon wiry stems .25

DECORATIVE CLASS

ADMIRATION—Color a curious blending of amaranth red and creamy yellow, large flowers .25

AYESHA—Flowers of good form of pure soft yellow. Vigorous grower. .25

AIDA—Deep maroon of large size with good stems. .50

BESSIE BOSTON—A large crimson bloom, petals cleft and fluted. Good cut flower of lasting quality .30

CHARMINSTER (From Cal.)—Large attractive flower of yellow and salmon, tinged light terra cotta. .40

CREAMO—Immense light creamy yellow blooms, sometimes shows open center in late season. .40

DELICE—Fresh watermelon pink; valuable one for cutting for its lasting quality. Always popular. .25

D. M. MOORE—An immense and striking flower of a very dark maroon. .30

FRAU GEHEIMRAT SCHEIFF—A German decorative with immense flowers borne upon long stems, very free. Color a beautiful golden bronze with salmon red shadings, upon reverse. One of the most admired for the brilliant mass of color shown in its rows. .40

GALATHEA—A medium sized flower of soft delicate pink. .25

H. G. NEWMAN—A Californian of deep cherry red, petals furcated at points, good cutflowers .25

IMMENSE—Good size, of striking appearance, light ground, deeply suffused carmine and rose. .30

LATONA—Quite satisfactory with its good size and color, a straw yellow or honey shade sometimes tinged bronze. .50

LAVENDER BEAUTY—Soft lavender, petals serrate, medium size. .20

LA FIANCEE—French. Large flower with lacinated petals, rosy carmine, shaded light .25

MINNIE McCULLOUGH—Soft yellow, overlaid bronze, medium size, very valuable cut flower, shows well under artificial light. .20

MINA BURGLE—A very popular Californian. Large dark red flowers upon good stems. .25

MADAM LUMIERE—Very distinct wax like flower of rosy white heavily tipped violet crimson, one of the most beautiful cut flowers. .25

MADAM VERCROYSEN—Fancy decorative showy coral red, splashed yellow. .25

MON CAPRON—Light maroon edged and lightly marked with almost invisible white, good size and stem. .35

MRS. CHAS. SEYBOLD—Dec-peony. A popular variety. Ground color carmine crimson, each petal tipped and more or less marked white, early and continuous, freely produced. .25

- MRS. C. J. MILLS—Dec>Show. One of the finest dark shades, nearly black with claret crimson spot upon petals. Good bloomer, fine stem and flower. .30
- OREGON BEAUTY—Dec=Peony. Attracts great attention by its gorgeous display of brilliant scarlet. .25
- ORANGE DOUZON—Mammoth in size, broad petals, fine stems, rich shade of orange red. .35
- PRINCESS ANGELINE—Cerise violet, good size and free, stock limited. .30
- PIÉRE-LE-BLOUD—This showy flower of dark red with white tips is most striking. Good stems, above the foliage. .35
- QUEEN MARY—Clear silvery rose of proven merit. .25
- WM. PALMER—One of the most beautiful and distinct colors, a very deep old rose. Not a large flower but not less beautiful for showing its open golden center. The extra long stems and attractive color are very artistic in bouquets. .25
- YELLOW COLOSSE—Very large canary yellow bloom, prolific and showy, attracting much attention. .25

SHOW CLASS

- A. D. LIVONI—The purest pink among dahlias, finely quilled, one of the oldest yet withstanding the test of time. .20
- ACQUISITION—Large flowers upon good stems, of a very peculiar shade of lilac purple. .25
- CUBAN GIANT—Another old variety, yet indispensable, large flower, deep crimson. .25
- DREERS WHITE—One of the very best whites with large quilled flowers .25
- DAVID WARFIELD—One of the largest in this class, producing its cherry red blooms well above the foliage, stock limited. .50
- DOROTHY PEACOCK—A fine shell pink shading to white center. Early, free and continuous bloomer. .25

- ELSIE BURGESS—Light ground overspread lavender, delicate color, good form and free .25
- GRAND DUCHESS MARIE—Rich buff overlaid orange large and striking. .25
- GRACE REED—White deeply suffused rosy lavender, always perfect. .25
- GOLDEN TREASURE—Burnt orange, good form and full. .20
- MAUDE ADAMS—One of the most beautiful, white overspread delicate blush, a matchless cut flower, unsurpassed for the garden. .30
- NORMA—Orange buff, perfect flower. .25
- MERLIN (English)—Bright scarlet prolific and showy, rather dwarf. .25
- MRS. J. P. SMITH—A very large cherry red. .40
- TILLAMOOK—Delicate rosy pink, good size, quilled. .25
- VICOMTE KERMOISAN—French show. Light old rose with bar of light yellow through each petal, unique perfect flower. .40
- VIRIDIFLORA—A green flowering variety. .25
- VIVIAN—Rose and cerise, beautiful blending, with good size. .25
- W. W. RAWSON—White overlaid amethystine blue, perfect outline and formation. The massive flowers are held erect upon good stems, extra good. .25

PEONY OR ART DAHLIAS

- ALICE ROOSEVELT—Mauve rose, excellent .25
- BETTYS (From England)—Extremely large flower with beautifully combined colors of old gold, rose and amber. Grand bloom with erect stem. .50
- COPPER—A fine autumn color, copper shading to bronze. Good size and free. .40
- DORIS ORR—Mauve rose with light shading. .25
- ELSA—One of the best whites in this class. .40
- FRAU DR. NEBELTHAU (German)—A very pure waxy white with golden center, round and perfect, good stems. Very desirable as a cut flower or for the garden. .40

- FANCY FREE—Old rose to rose lake, unusual and pretty. .35
- HAMPTON COURT—Quite large broad petaled pink, overcast light rose. .25
- MAD COISSARD—A beautiful blending of carmine and crimson to blush and white, very attractive. .50
- MEYERBEER (France)—One of the very largest and best in this class, with distinct and striking color, crimson purple, maroon shading toward center. .50
- MAD VARD (French)—Deep currant red, shading yellow at center, rather dwarf. .40
- MRS. GEO. GORDON—A fine, large bloom of creamy yellow. .35
- MRS. WM. KERR—Large, finely formed flowers, creamy pink overlaid bright carmine. .30
- RIESEN EDELWEISS—Large beautiful snow white petals, single cactus like formation. .25
- VAN DYKE—Salmon rose and light shades, tinted lavender, twisted petals. .30
- ZCUAVE—English. A good sized deep crimson scarlet, strong grower. .25

COLLARETTE AND SINGLE DAHLIAS

- ACHIEVEMENT (Collarette)—A large rich velvety maroon with a beautiful contrasting collar, snowy white with a dainty overlay of crimson. .30
- AMI BARILLET—Garnet with dark center, its beauty is much enhanced by its dark bronzy foliage. .25
- AMI NONIN (Collarette)—Large carmine crimson, shaded light rose collar white. .25
- BELFAST—Large flowers of dazzling scarlet, makes very showy plants, covered with flowers. .20
- CANNELL'S FAVORITE (English)—Scarlet, regularly striped orange, sometimes solid color, unique. .25
- CLOCH—Collarette. Soft lilac with lemon collar-ette. .25
- CRAWLEY STAR—Single cosmos flowered dahlia of bright rose with dark corona about center, fine vase flower. .25
- ECKFORD CENTURY—White with penciling of crimson. .25
- GEN. JOFFRE—Collarette. Dark crimson, suffused light yellow, collar yellow. .25

- JOHN DOWNIE—A fine English variety, velvety maroon, shading scarlet, most artistic . 25
- KOERNERS WHITE—Pure white. Single. .20
- PRINCE-DE-BULGARIE (French)—Medium size. Petals usually have three equal stripes of white and scarlet, beautiful blossoms are sometimes of solid color. .25

LARGE SINGLE

- VARIEGATED LISZT—A large single of dark oriental red tipped and suffused light yellow effective for decoration. .25
- POINSETTIA—Resembling a bright scarlet Poinsettia. .25

POMPON CLASS

- ACHILLES—Delicate flesh, suffused mauve .20
- DARK EYE—White ground, lavender tips and darker eye. .20
- GRUSS-AM-WEIN—Crushed strawberry, perfect form. Fine for cutting. .20
- HELEN DEEGEN (German)—White edged carmine. .20
- INDIAN CHIEF—Crimson free. .20
- KUPFER—Coppery orange buff. .20
- LITTLE BUGLER—Royal purple. .20
- QUEEN OF HEARTS—A perfect white. .20

NOTE—Twelve roots (any class) may be selected from those priced 25 cents each for \$2.50.

COLLECTION

\$2.00

SPECIAL OFFER TO INTRODUCE

Twelve varieties all different and truly labeled will be ready for distribution after May 1st. Are not inferior roots or varieties. Most will be found in catalog. Will be made up to differ from anything you have, or order. Mailed postpaid (east of Mississippi).

GLADIOLUS

Have some of these reasonably priced. Information upon request.





“From shapeless roots and ugly bulbous things,
What gorgeous beauty springs!
Such infinite variety appears,
A hundred artists in a hundred years,
Could never copy from the dahlia world,
The marvels that in leaf and bud lie curled,
Nor could the most colossal mind of man,
Create one little seed of plant or vine,
Without assistance from the First Great Plan,
Without the aid Divine.”

